

disturbed. She would run to the site if some one came near. At times she rushed towards the sweeper if he went near the eggs while cleaning the enclosure.

The hatching started on the morning of 26th June and was complete by 15 hrs. the same day. 14 young escaped into the water but were soon captured with the help of nets and along with the other young were kept in a separate cage.

If the young are not separated from the parents soon after hatching, there is the danger of their being devoured by them. They were removed from the cage of their parents very cautiously as the mother furiously attacked intruders.

The young reptile soon after hatching measured between 28 and 30 cm. with their weight ranging from 90 to 100 gm. The young ones could see, bite and swim with ease.

The young ones do not accept any feed for about a month but depend on sand particles and small insects available in their cage. After this they are given minced-meat and minced-fish once a day which they readily devour.

Crocodiles in the Jaipur Zoo have been breeding regularly for the last 12 years. The data has also been published in the year book of the London Zoological Society, Volume 9.

Mating occurs during December and January and the eggs are laid in April and May. The mating takes place in water in an overlapped position and lasts half to two hours, during which period they are silent and motionless.

By the time this note was written in the third week of July, all the 27 young crocodiles were doing well in their small cage in the Jaipur Zoo.

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
RAJASTHAN,
JAIPUR,

MAHENDRA PRAKASH

July 26, 1971.

13. A RECORD OF THE GHARIAL, *GAVIALIS GANGETICUS* (GMELIN) FROM PATNA (BIHAR)

On 21-xi-1970 night a single specimen of *Gavialis gangeticus* (Gmelin) was caught by a fisherman, from the Badar Ghat (Patna), at the confluence of the River Gandak with the River Ganges. It was collected in a fishing net, locally called 'Gochai'. The specimen measured 247 cm. and its approximate weight was 100 Kg.

The measurements of the specimen were as follows:

Total length	.. 247 cm.
Maximum girth	.. 99 ..
Tail length	.. 144 ..
Distance from snout to eye	.. 38 ..
Diameter of the eye	.. 4 ..
Lower teeth on each side	.. 26 Nos.
Upper teeth on each side	.. 27 ..

The dorsal surface was olive brown and ventral surface whitish yellow. There were six cross-bands on the body. From its size it appeared to be a young animal.

It appears that the specimen might have migrated in the rainy season from River Gandak. Biswas (1970)¹ states that in rainy season the Gharials migrate up to Allahabad in River Ganges.

The fisherman, Dholan Choudhury, who caught the Gharial, stated that he had in 1968, caught 3 specimens from the same spot on the River Ganges.

The specimen was alive in his possession for 5 days.

GANGETIC PLAINS REGIONAL STATION,
ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,
RAJENDRANAGAR, PATNA-16,
June 25, 1971.

T. VENKATESWARLU
BHOLANATH
D. P. SANYAL

14. COBRA AND MONITOR LIZARD

On the morning of July 2nd I witnessed a fight between a cobra and a monitor lizard. The incident took place on the sloping bank of an overgrown ditch about twenty feet wide in a small piece of wild land at the back of the Safdarjang airfield. While birdwatching in this area I suddenly came across a cobra (a black one) coiled around a stone with a charge of reeds behind it, its head raised about a foot from the ground, its hood about six inches wide with a binocellate mark. About a yard in front of it a three foot long monitor lizard stood facing it. The lizard moved from side to side probably trying to get a opening for attack while the snake followed its movements carefully. As the lizard moved to one side and came forward, the cobra struck but missed, the monitor jumped on its back, but whipping round, the snake struck once more but missed again as the lizard jumped off. They resumed their old positions watching each other

¹BISWAS, S. (1970). A preliminary survey of Gharial in the Kosi River. *Indian Forester* 96 (9): 705-710.